



Reconstructionist Temple Beth Israel of Bergen County

A Contemporary Look at Tradition

201-845-7550
rtbi@rtbi-online.org

www.rtbi-online.org

34 West Magnolia Avenue
Maywood, NJ 07607

28th of Iyyar - 29th of Tamuz, 5771

Vol. 13, No. 11
June/July 2011

Rabbi Jarah Greenfield
Congregational Cantor Lois Kittner

כ"ח באייר - כ"ט בתמוז תשע"א

Welcome to our new board members!

Effective July 1 our new board will be:

Treasurer	Ray Hopp
Recording Secretary	Rachel Ladutke
Membership	Linda Shapiro
Ritual	Christine O'Donnell
Programming	Kathy Cannarozzi
Education	Ivan Salinas
Social Action	Sue Coleman
Fundraising	Eleanor Baker & Shirley Epstein
Trustees-at-large	Sarah Fiedler, Peter Cohen
Immed. Past Pres.	Caryn Starr-Gates

PLEASE NOTE

We are still accepting nominations for the following positions:

Executive Committee: President, vice president, financial secretary

Trustees: house & grounds chair (adult education will be handled by programming in the absence of that chairperson)



President's Message

By Caryn Starr-Gates

THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

As I wind down my term as board president, I want to express my sincere gratitude to our team and acknowledge the great work we did over the last two years.

We revised our by-laws (under the guidance of Steve Weisfeld) , created our first policies and procedures manual (with the coordinating and collating efforts of Roz Altman), and gave careful consideration to creating a volunteer culture in our community. My personal thanks go to Rabbi Jarah for framing that particular piece of our board work together this year; I believe we have truly begun a new paradigm of board service and our own studies and conversations around the issue of volunteer engagement will serve our RTBI community well in the future. Our goal is to bring as many members as possible into our communal work in some way, small or big, short-term or long-term.

To our outgoing board members, thank you so much for stepping up and being a part

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Reconstructionist Temple Beth Israel of Bergen County

34 West Magnolia Avenue
Maywood, NJ 07607

Rabbi Jarah Greenfield
Rabbi Jarah has a direct line for RTBI calls.
You can reach her at **201-838-9824**.
You may also send email to: rabbi@rtbi-online.org

In the event of an emergency, please contact
Caryn Starr-Gates at 201-791-4694 or
carynstarr@yahoo.com

RTBI Board of Directors

Executive Officers

President: Caryn Starr-Gates
Vice President: Steve Weisfeld
Treasurer: Ray Hopp
Financial Secretary: Roz Altman
Recording Secretary: Rachel Ladutke

Board of Trustees

Membership: Linda Shapiro
Ritual: David Volin
Programming: Sarah Fiedler
Education: Ivan Salinas
Social Action: Sue Coleman
House & Grounds: Norman Epstein
Fundraising: Jennifer Heise
Adult Education: Steve Ulin

Trustees-at-Large

Shirley Epstein, Marsha Weinsfeld

Special Chairs (non-voting)

Sunshine: Susan Coleman
Rabbinic Liaison: Gloria Lieberstein
Onegs: Alexandra Hanson-Harding
Phone Squad: Leila Laufer
Yahrzeit reminders: Judy Baslaw
JRF Liaison: Roz Altman
Website: Barbara Goodman
Email coordinator: Jürgen Burchfield
IT coordinator: Mitch Rabinowitz

RTBI MISSION STATEMENT

Reconstructionist Temple Beth Israel is a community of open-minded people who value social justice, learning, full and equal participation, and inclusiveness. Our worship services and social action initiatives provide spiritual experiences connected to sacred moments. Our commitment to Reconstructionist Judaism confirms our continuing evolution and growth as a Jewish community in a changing world.

Oneg Shabbat

A Delicious Way to Give to the Temple

Each of our member households is expected to sponsor an oneg Shabbat ("joy of the Sabbath ") after Friday night services once during the year. Onegs—refreshments served after the service—are sponsored for happy occasions such as birthdays, anniversaries, and engagements; serve to commemorate Yahrzeits and memorials; or can be sponsored "just because." **AS PART OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP, YOU MUST SPONSOR ONE ONEG EACH YEAR.**

The sponsor is responsible for shopping and setting up the Oneg (other members can help if you are not physically able to do it yourself). For your oneg, you should buy:

Cakes, cookies, pastries—*parve and kosher dairy*

There needs to be one parve, packaged choice available.

Soft drinks, seltzer or other drinks—*with a hechsher*

Juice for Kiddush—*marked as kosher*

Fresh fruit (*cut at temple with our knives, or*

purchased from a produce-only or Kosher market)

Challah for Saturday morning

You 'll be sent a letter outlining how to set up, and there are people to lend you a hand if you need one.

Please contact Alexandra Hanson-Harding at ahh13@comcast.net to sponsor an oneg shabbat

KASHRUT POLICY

Our kitchen is kosher dairy.

All food brought into the temple for snacks, onegs or meals should be parve (neutral) or dairy. You may prepare food at home *only* if you have been certified by the kashrut committee. Any prepared/packaged foods (things in packages, jars, cartons, etc.) must have a hechsher (kosher certification) mark, such as OU, Circle K, Star K or Chaf K.

Contribute to The Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

This vital fund is used to help congregants who are in need or for other special situations, at the rabbi's discretion.

You may send donations to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund to:

The Rabbi's Discretionary Fund—RTBI

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If your child has never been to Jewish overnight summer camp, you may be eligible for a **\$1000 grant**. Learn more and apply for your grant today at **onehappycamper.org**.

UJA NNJ Francine Koszer
201-820-3914
francinek@ujannj.org

onehappycamper.org

Restrictions may apply. Go to onehappycamper.org for details.

We have great news!

The Foundation for Jewish Camp has allocated additional funds to enable our community to give another 25 \$1,000 first-time ONE HAPPY CAMPER incentive grants this summer.

Please share this good news with your families who may be considering sending heir children to Jewish overnight summer camp for the first time.

www.onehappycamper.org



If you wish to donate to the Sunshine Fund, call Sue Coleman at 201-837-1490. When you give a donation with a message to someone, a card is sent out by Sue to that person. We ask for a \$5 donation for a card .

TRIBUTE CARDS

For a donation of \$18 or more, you can send someone a tribute card for special recognition. Send a check to RTBI, attn: Roz Altman, Tribute Card. You can also contact Roz at rozzi0630@aol.com or 201-342-1641. Include a note with the message you'd like in the card, the name & address of the person it's going to, and how it should be signed. (The tribute card is an art card, larger and nicer than the regular sunshine card.)

Book Club News

On June 13, *The Three Weissmanns of Westport* by Cathleen Schine will be discussed.

The July book will be *Sense and Sensibility* by Jane Austen.

NATHAN KITTNER

ATTORNEY AT LAW

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HACKENSACK, NJ 07601

CERTIFIED CRIMINAL TRIAL ATTORNEY

email:
VLSgrad@prodigy.net

(201) 488-5565
FAX (201) 488-2335

RTBI BIRTHDAYS

JUNE

- 3 Karen Reisman
- 6 Bette Feldman
- 7 Gavin Nema
- 8 David Volin
- 17 Ariana Gates
- 19 Shelley Kohen
- 24 Zahava Schwartz
- 26 Grace Springer-Goldberg
- 30 Roz Altman & Jennifer Ouellette

JULY

- 1 Marvin Katz & Daniel Seidman
- 3 Sandi Salinas
- 12 Gil Fine
- 16 Mark Elfant
- 18 Eleanor Baker
- 22 Vita Taurke Joseph & Sheldon Reisman
- 25 Alma Katz
- 26 Isaac Springer-Goldberg

Remember:

Every Day is Mitzvah Day

 www.torahlady.com

Available for Life Cycle events:

Weddings, baby namings, funerals



Torah chanting lessons

Bar and Bat Mitzvah tutor

LOIS KITTNER
201.343.2107

RTBI's Congregational Cantor

The Center for Food Action desperately needs these items:

Canned Meat (tuna, chicken, etc.), Canned Hearty soup, Canned vegetables, Macaroni and Cheese, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Cereal (low sugar), Canned fruit, Instant Potatoes, 100% Juice, Baby Formula & Diapers. (Sizes 4, 5 & 6), Bar Soap, Toothpaste & Toothbrush, Supermarket Gift Cards. Please put any donations in the bin in the coat room.

TIDBITS NEWS

Please note that Jürgen Burchfield is our email Tidbits editor; Caryn just sends out the emails.

Send any Temple-related notices for consideration

Steven A. Weisfeld, Member
of the Law Firm of

 **BEATTIE PADOVANO, LLC**

50 Chestnut Ridge Road
Montvale, New Jersey 07645
(201) 573-1810
www.beattielaw.com

ADS in the BULLETIN, Oy what a deal!

Got a business? Take out an AD! An ad in the RTBI bulletin will reach families throughout Bergen County. Rates are reasonable; the ad will run monthly for one year.

Yearly rates:

1/8 page \$125	1/4 page \$175
1/2 page \$250	full page \$300

Contact David Volin at rtbulletin@yahoo.com or 201-794-1107 & he'll give you info about placing an ad. Copy or logos should be submitted in electronic format (email or on disc) when possible.

RTBI EVENTS

Friday, June 3

7pm CLC Moving-Up ceremony
7:30pm Shabbat Services
Rabbi Jarah leads

Saturday, June 4

10am Shabbat Naso/Pre-Shavout Services
Rabbi Jarah leads

Tuesday, June 7

Tikkun Leil Shavuot at FLJC with Rabbi Jarah teaching
See article in this issue

Wednesday, June 8

7:30pm Yizkor Service
Cong. Cantor Lois leads

Friday, June 10

8 pm Erev Shabbat Services
Rabbi Jarah leads

Saturday, June 11

10 am Shabbat Beha'alotecha
Caryn leads

Friday, June 17

8 pm Shir Hadash

Saturday, June 18

No Services

Friday, June 24

8pm Erev Shabbat Services
Rabbi Jarah leads

Saturday, June 25

10am Shabbat Services
Rabbi Jarah leads

Friday and Saturday, July 1 and 2

No Services—Summer schedule begins, Fridays only as of next weekend

Monday, July 4

March or ride with RTBI in the Maywood Parade
Cong. Cantor Lois says benediction

Friday, July 8

8pm Erev Shabbat Services
Cong. Cantor Lois leads

Saturday, July 9

No Services

Friday, July 15

Caryn leads

Saturday, July 16

No Services

Friday, July 22

Cong. Cantor Lois leads

Saturday, July 23

No Services

Friday, July 29

Caryn leads

Saturday, July 30

No Services

OTHER EVENTS

Wednesday, June 1 at noon and

Wednesday, June 15 at noon

A two-part PEARL conference call on Sustainability and the Greening of Jewish LifeAs part of JRF's ongoing Sustainable Synagogue Initiative, these sessions will focus on Jewish values and successful greening of synagogue life. Special focus on texts and traditions on religious and ecological consciousness and sustainable practices in ritual, programming and policy aspects of Jewish communal life, using alternative energies, and emerging best practices. Register now at www.jrf.org/pearl.

Featuring Fred Scherlinder Dobb and Rabbi Shawn Israel Zevit.

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201-880-5290

June 2011 28 Iyar 5771 - 28 Sivan 5771

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <small>28 IYAR</small> ★ Yom Yerushalayim	2 <small>29 IYAR</small>	3 <small>1 SIVAN</small> ★ Rosh Chodesh Sivan 8:03 7pm CLC Moving-Up Ceremony 7:30pm Erev Shabbat Services	4 <small>2 SIVAN</small> ★ Nasso 10am Shabbat Services
5 <small>3 SIVAN</small>	6 <small>4 SIVAN</small>	7 <small>5 SIVAN</small> 8:06 8:30pm Tikkun Leil Shavuot at FLJC	8 <small>6 SIVAN</small> ★ Shavuot - Day 1 7:30pm Yizkor Service	9 <small>7 SIVAN</small> ★ Shavuot - Day 2	10 <small>8 SIVAN</small> 8:07 8pm Erev Shabbat Services	11 <small>9 SIVAN</small> ★ Beha'aloscha 10am Shabbat Services
12 <small>10 SIVAN</small>	13 <small>11 SIVAN</small>	14 <small>12 SIVAN</small>	15 <small>13 SIVAN</small>	16 <small>14 SIVAN</small>	17 <small>15 SIVAN</small> 8:10 8pm Shir Hadash Services	18 <small>16 SIVAN</small> ★ Shelach No Services
19 <small>17 SIVAN</small>	20 <small>18 SIVAN</small>	21 <small>19 SIVAN</small>	22 <small>20 SIVAN</small>	23 <small>21 SIVAN</small>	24 <small>22 SIVAN</small> 8:12 8pm Erev Shabbat Services	25 <small>23 SIVAN</small> ★ Korach 10am Shabbat Services
26 <small>24 SIVAN</small>	27 <small>25 SIVAN</small>	28 <small>26 SIVAN</small>	29 <small>27 SIVAN</small>	30 <small>28 SIVAN</small>		

July 2011

29 Sivan 5771 - 29 Tammuz 5771

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 29 SIVAN 8:12 No Services	2 30 SIVAN Rosh Chodesh Tammuz - Day 1 Chukas No Services
3 1 TAMMUZ Rosh Chodesh Tammuz - Day 2	4 2 TAMMUZ Independence Day March with RTBI in the Maywood Parade!	5 3 TAMMUZ	6 4 TAMMUZ	7 5 TAMMUZ	8 6 TAMMUZ 8:10 8pm Erev Shabbat Services	9 7 TAMMUZ Balak No Services
10 8 TAMMUZ	11 9 TAMMUZ	12 10 TAMMUZ	13 11 TAMMUZ	14 12 TAMMUZ	15 13 TAMMUZ 8:07 8pm Erev habbat Services	16 14 TAMMUZ Pinchas No Services
17 15 TAMMUZ	18 16 TAMMUZ	19 17 TAMMUZ Seventeenth of Tammuz	20 18 TAMMUZ	21 19 TAMMUZ	22 20 TAMMUZ 8:02 8pm Erev Shabbat Services	23 21 TAMMUZ Matos No Services
24 22 TAMMUZ	25 23 TAMMUZ	26 24 TAMMUZ	27 25 TAMMUZ	28 26 TAMMUZ	29 27 TAMMUZ 7:56 8pm Erev Shabbat Services	30 28 TAMMUZ Masei No Services
31 29 TAMMUZ						

of the team! Your insights and input were of tremendous value to our work. I sincerely hope you will continue to be a partner in our work together, whether as a committee member or project leader.

I hope that many more of you will get involved in some small way that speaks to your particular skills or interests. Whether serving on the board as a standing committee chair or taking on one of our special committee functions, helping with committee work on an ongoing basis or on a one-time project, we need your assistance, guidance and support. After all, it's fun and we don't bite!

I have always found my synagogue involvement to be richly rewarding on a personal level; to be part of something so dynamic as RTBI, to help create community, to bring people together in some way ... what a wonderful ride. I'm so glad I found out about RTBI 12 years ago and even more gratified that I was asked to join the board early on in my membership. It's been wonderful and I will continue to help in many ways.

Thank you everyone!

KNITTING CIRCLE TAKES A SUMMER BREAK

Sarah Fiedler's official knitting needles will take a rest for the summer and pick up again in the fall. "I've enjoyed our times together and look forward to going further after the summer. I'm still here, near, and knitting (and spinning) so if anyone needs anything just let me know and I'm sure we can arrange a get-together," she says. Questions or info needed? E-mail Sarah at sarah.fiedler@gmail.com.

**Help Represent RTBI
at the Maywood 4th of July Parade**

Cantor Lois will be giving the benediction at the Maywood July 4th parade. The march begins at the Myron Co. about 9 A.M., goes through W. Pleasant Ave., and ends at Memorial Park with a ceremony about 10:45 A.M.

If you would like to march or ride in a car with our banner, contact Gloria at: glorielieb@juno.com.



Yahrzeits



It is customary to attend services on the Shabbat before the yahrzeit to say Kaddish.

Elizabeth Schrier	June 8	Sivan 6
Pearl Eisenberg	June 12	Sivan 10
Phyllis Brenner	June 15	Sivan 13
Alan Baslaw	June 16	Sivan 14
Helen Katz	June 18	Sivan 16
Al Salinas	June 23	Sivan 21
Benjamin Wolff	June 23	Sivan 21
Walter Rubin	June 29	Sivan 27
Selma Heit	July 1	Sivan 29
William Volin	July 2	Sivan 30
Danielle Beth Epstein	July 4	Tammuz 2
Sylvia Brodsky	July 6	Tammuz 4
Sidney Model	July 7	Tammuz 5
Mac Coleman	July 16	Tammuz 14
Isadore Yankelevsky	July 18	Tammuz 16
Nancy Rosen	July 20	Tammuz 18
Minnie Baker	July 23	Tammuz 21
Theodore Freedland	July 23	Tammuz 21
Chaim Epstein	July 24	Tammuz 22
Bernard Yankelevsky	July 24	Tammuz 22
Rose Brodsky	July 26	Tammuz 24
Rose Guss	July 26	Tammuz 24
Sylvan Seidman	July 28	Tammuz 26

Remember, Hebrew days begin at sunset, so light candles on the evening preceding the civil date.

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT
BULLETIN
IS ALWAYS THE 20TH OF
THE MONTH**

E-mail: rtbibulletin@yahoo.com

A Loving Remembrance

A lasting and loving way to remember loved ones is with a Brass Yahrzeit Plaque. Beautifully crafted plaques contain your loved one's name (Hebrew & English) and the Yahrzeit in both Hebrew and civil dates. Plaques are displayed on our large Yahrzeit panels.

The RTBI Member price is \$150 per plaque.

For information on purchasing plaques, please contact the ritual committee at 201-845-7550.

National Jewish LGBT Camp Weekend

Where are you going to be June 17-19, 2011? At Capital Retreat Center for the National Jewish LGBT Camp Weekend would be the correct answer. Registration is increasing daily and you don't want to miss out on this amazing weekend. As Passover concludes, people will begin to focus on the summer and what better way to kick it off than at this one of a kind event?

Several types of accommodations are available from private hotel rooms to group cabins, but to be able to have complete ability to select your style of lodging, register now, as they are assigned on a first-come first-served basis. Participants will be coming from all along the East Coast including Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington DC, Fort Lauderdale and Miami. And we've heard from participants as far away as Los Angeles.

Are you a current college student or want to share housing options with friends? These are two of the ways that you can reduce the cost of this incredible weekend experience. Just ask us how. Use your Passover gatherings to discuss this amazing event. For further information, visit us on the web at www.capitalretreat.org. If you have any questions, you can reach Richard Weinstock, Program Director, National Jewish LGBT Camp Weekend at 240-283-6162 or richard@capitalretreat.org. Have a great Pesach!



www.capitalretreat.org

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Save
\$100

Participants currently enrolled as a full time student at a college or university qualify for the student discounted price of **\$150**. This is a \$100 discount off the standard price.

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FOR SALE

A friend of Caryn's is relocating out of state from Englewood and has a few high-quality items for sale. Caryn has photos of these items if you wish to see them.

1. **Carolina daybed:** Flint color with pop-up trundle. Two mattresses included. Great condition. Paid \$624.00, will sell for \$299.00 complete. (Required disassembling head board and taking up a flight of stairs.)
2. **Edged glass top dining table:** 54 inches, black wood base, 4 matching black chairs. Great condition. Paid \$800.00, asking \$350.00.
3. **Green plush sofa** and coordinating toss pillows: \$125.00. Must bring up one flight of stairs.

Contact Nancy at 201-233-3700 or
tennis1637@aol.com

There's still time to donate to our Air Filter Fund

In order to meet the matching grant criterion that member Raymond Hopp has proposed to the community (we donate 2/3, Raymond will cover the remaining 1/3 of the total cost with a substantial donation), our members need to contribute a total of \$866.00 towards this building improvement (cost of the unit is \$1300).

Thanks to the generosity of many of you who attended our annual meeting on May 22, we have collected \$607.00 so far (just over 70% of our goal!). Fourteen members have contributed to date and we thank you!

We are still short by \$259.00 so we need another ten people to join us at \$25.00 each to meet this amount (any amount is welcome). A number of people took envelopes at the meeting and as Raymond put it, "with some *mazel* we are going to make it."

Please help us raise the balance so we can take advantage of Raymond's generous matching "grant" to purchase and install a Pure Air filtration system to improve the air quality in our back building. We are almost there! As reported at the meeting and discussed in the letter that went out last month to our members, we do not currently have the funds available in our budget for this expense. By raising \$866.00 from our members (and friends), we will save the temple a lot of money on this by not having to dip into our reserves to make this happen.



Shavuot is coming!

RTBI will be observing the holiday of Shavuot with two special events.

On Tuesday, June 7, Rabbi Jarah will teach at the Fair Lawn Jewish Center's Tikkun Leyl Shavuot. Ma'ariv service will be at 8:30pm, followed by four concurrent teaching sessions. Other teachers will be Rabbi Ronald Roth and Cantor Eric Wasser of the FLJC, and Dr. David Feit. The topic for the evening is "Doing the Right Thing." Dairy refreshments will round out the evening. Admission is free and everyone is invited to attend. The Fair Lawn Jewish Center is located at 10-10 Norma Avenue in Fair Lawn.

We will also hold a yizkor service at the conclusion of Shavuot on Wednesday, June 8 at 7:30 pm. Please come make a minyan for those who wish to recite Yizkor and Mourner's Kaddish.

Red, White and Kosher

By Sue Fishkoff

In 1972, a TV commercial changed the way Americans looked at kosher food. It showed Uncle Sam munching on a Hebrew National beef hot dog as a heavenly voice assures him it is free of the additives and byproducts present in lesser processed meats.

"We answer to a higher authority," the voice proclaims. Trust us — we're kosher.

That message resonated at a time when Americans were growing increasingly mistrustful of the government and were starting to worry about what dangerous hidden substances might be on their dinner plates. Today, a majority of Americans believe that kosher food is safer, healthier, better in general than non-kosher food. And they're willing to pay more for it. Kosher is the fastest-growing segment of the domestic food industry, with bigger sales than organic. One-third to one-half of the food in American supermarkets is kosher-certified, representing more than \$200 billion of the country's estimated \$500 billion in annual food sales, up from \$32 billion in 1993.

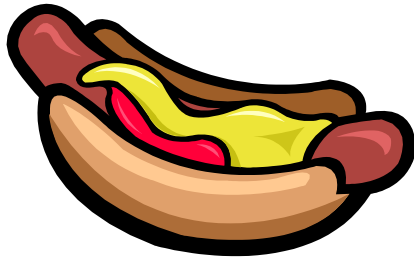
Given that Jews make up less than 2 percent of the population, and most of them don't keep kosher, it's clear that the people buying this food are mostly non-Jews. While some consumers probably aren't aware that their pasta or cookies are kosher, many are folks who believe that "higher authority" promise.

The Hebrew National campaign also captured a pivotal moment in American Jewish history: a newly confident but still largely immigrant community, basking in Israel's victory in the June 1967 war, was almost reflexively looking back over its shoulder, not quite sure of its position in the majority-Christian society.

American Jews have always tried to balance their desire to be fully American with an equally strong desire to preserve their Jewish identity. As the social historian Jenna Weissman Joselit points out, one way that immigrant groups cement their position in a new society

Continued next page

is by appropriating the foods of the dominant culture while simultaneously integrating their own into the mix. What better way for Jews to signal their full acceptance into American society than by stamping their imprimatur — kosher certification — on that most American of food products, the hot dog?



Americans eat more hot dogs than any nation on earth — 20 billion of them every year, according to the National Hot Dog and Sausage Council, 150 million of them on the Fourth of July alone. Making kosher hot dogs ubiquitous would be, like

getting rid of university quotas and restricted country clubs, a powerful statement that Jews have made it.

The struggle, not surprisingly, has played out on the ball fields. Observant Jewish sports fans, long used to brown-bagging it or watching the games hungry, have cheered every time another stadium has said yes to a kosher food concession. Baltimore's Oriole Park at Camden Yards started serving kosher fare in 1993; New York's Shea and Yankee Stadiums joined the ranks in 1998.

It's not just hot dogs. Every time a major American food product goes kosher, observant Jews are delighted. Coca-Cola in 1935. Oreos in 1997. Tootsie Rolls last year and two Gatorade drinks earlier this year. Häagen-Dazs ice cream, Smucker's grape jam, Tropicana orange juice — every new item brought into the kosher pantry is a sign of fitting in the American mainstream while being observant.

Curiously, those dogs that answer to a higher authority aren't kosher enough for most Jews who keep kosher. Hebrew National bills itself as one of the world's largest kosher meat processors, churning out 720 million hot dogs last year, but virtually no Orthodox Jews will eat them.

For years the company's kosher supervision was handled by an in-house rabbi rather than by one of the national certifying agencies, a major faux pas. His supervision was considered "unreliable" by all the national agencies and the Orthodox leadership.

In 2004, Hebrew National's kosher supervision was handed to a well-known rabbi from Brooklyn. After a delegation of Conservative rabbis visited the company's slaughterhouses and packing plant, the dogs were



Continued next column

Best-Selling Author at RTBI



On May 15, Maggie Anton, best-selling author of the Rashi's daughters series, spoke at an RTBI dessert reception.

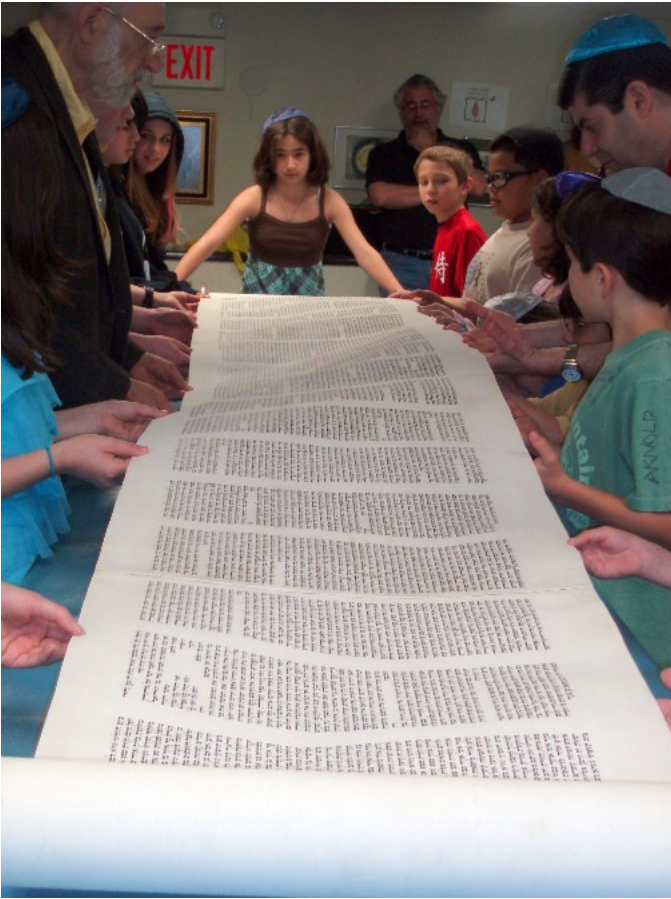
pronounced kosher enough for Conservative Jews; but Orthodox authorities still won't condone them, saying the meat isn't glatt kosher, a higher standard.

The world of kosher meat took a big hit in 2008 when Agriprocessors, the nation's largest kosher slaughterhouse and meat packer, in Postville, Iowa, was raided by immigration officials. The company went bankrupt, the plant's manager was sentenced to prison for financial fraud, and the kosher meat industry has been scrambling to restore its good name ever since.

So will kosher dogs weather the storm? This weekend should provide some answers. My guess is that, like their gentile neighbors, Jewish families will fill the grill with Hebrew National hot dogs. Unless, of course, they're Orthodox. Or vegetarian. Or locavores, or opposed to the entire industrialized food system — in which case they won't be having the kosher-certified Coke, bun or mustard either.

Sue Fishkoff is the author of the "Kosher Nation: Why More and More of America's Food Answers to a Higher Authority."

Reprinted from The New York Times.



SCRIBE-A-PALOOZA

AT

RTBI



34 West Magnolia Avenue
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A Contemporary Look at Tradition